States, the facts regarding Pakistan's continued support and sponsorship of cross border terrorism and infiltration directed against India and the dangers inherent in Pakistan continuing to be the epicenter of international terrorism. USA and many of the other countries have repeatedly called upon Pakistan to end cross border infiltration and to dismantle the infrastructure of support to terrorism.

Suspension of Pakistan from Commonwealth

2628. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that Pakistan is to remain suspended from Commonwealth; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) The recommendation that Pakistan should be suspended from the Councils of the Commonwealth was endorsed by Commonwealth Heads of Government at Durban in November, 1999. The decision to maintain the suspension was taken unanimously by the Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group, of which India is presently a member, at its meeting in London on 19-20 May, 2003.

Anchoring of American warships at Kochi

2629. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that American warships returning from Iraq were permitted entry into Kochi Port;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the duration of their stay at Kochi;

(c) whether permitting this ship at Kochi was against the spirit of the country's stand on the Iraqi war; and

(d) Government's response thereto?